



August 5, 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) & Students:

Greetings! I hope you and your family are enjoying a safe and blessed summer break. I'm certain you are excited for the new school year to begin!

I, for one, can't wait for the new school year to start! We have a wonderful student body returning, and I expect the Class of 2025 to set the example and be the academic and school leaders at our Academy. Earlier this summer, I met some members of the Class of 2028, and I was very impressed with their excitement to be Saints and their desire to excel in the classroom. Those are great qualities that are beneficial to a successful freshmen year.

I am also particularly excited to celebrate our 100th year! Saint Raphael Academy opened on September 10, 1924, and we will be highlighting our 100th birthday throughout the upcoming school year. More information will be provided in the ensuing months.

The campus has been very busy the last few months, as it always is during the summer break. The big news to report is that the Annex Building has received a much-needed facelift. The entryway of the building and the hallway have been totally transformed into an area you would expect if you were going to your art or music classes. We have put emphasis on creativity, and I hope you will sense that when you enter the refurbished Annex Building. The art and music rooms have also been updated with new furniture for students, refurbished cabinets, and a fresh coat of paint. There is still some work to be finished before the end of August, but it looks *great!* Annual maintenance is also occurring in your absences; the gym floor in Alumni Hall is now resurfaced and shining brightly, and all the classroom floors are now waxed and polished. As always, the landscaping company has kept the grounds beautiful, ensuring the flowers beds are perfectly manicured as we all await your arrival. The foundation has been formed for an awesome school year!

Our faculty and staff have used the summer months to recharge their batteries and to take advantage of the opportunity to travel. Some Saints went on professional trips to hone their teaching skills, and others went on more leisurely vacations to spend time with their families. Either way, they will be ready when classes begin later this month. There will be some new faces at Saint Raphael Academy, and I am thrilled to have the new teachers and staff join the Saints family.

Speaking of new faces at the Academy, once again we have many new students joining us this year. The number of students in the Class of 2028 has continued to grow during the summer months (great job, SRA Admissions team!) and I heard wonderful feedback from their teachers this summer. We have also admitted a wonderful group of transfer students throughout the summer, each of them bringing a multitude of talents and skills to SRA. The influx of new students makes this a very exciting time for Saint Raphael Academy. I know the SRA faculty and staff are ready for a great year, so please arrive at the end of August prepared to make the 2024-2025 academic year something very special.

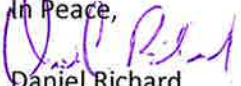
Please take the time to review the following documents associated with the upcoming school year:

- A 2024-2025 school year calendar
- A 2024-2025 academic calendar, indicating the dates of the academic quarters for the coming school year
- A 2024-2025 orientation schedule for the start of school
- Letters from Mrs. Baxter (VP of Academics) and Mr. Carvalho (VP of Student Life)

Also, students should be well on their way to completing their assigned summer reading.

Please take the remainder of your summer to relax and enjoy your family. I am looking forward to seeing all the freshmen and transfer students at their orientation on Tuesday, August 27, 2024. Upperclassmen orientation will be on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 (check the orientation schedule for exact times). **The first day of academic classes will be on Thursday, August 29, 2024.**

In Peace,



Daniel Richard
Principal